

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-12 TRSE-00 /094 W
-----018409 280414Z /61

R 260202Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9227
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS USUN 0241

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, XF
SUBJECT: MIDDLE EAST; SECRETARY-GENERAL WALDHEIM'S PRESS
REMARKS, JANUARY 25

1. SYG WALDHEIM MADE BRIEF OPENING STATEMENT ON THE MIDDLE
EAST AND THEN ANSWERED SEVERAL QUESTIONS DURING HIS PRESS
CONFERENCE, JANUARY 25.

2. WALDHEIM TOLD THE PRESS CORPS THAT HE IS BEING KEPT
INFORMED BY GENERAL SIILASVUO AND BY THE PARTIES INVOLVED
IN THE SITUATION. HIS MAIN CONCERN IS TO ACHIEVE A COMPRE-
HENSIVE PEACE SETTLEMENT IN THE AREA; IT IS CLEAR THAT THIS
WILL BE COMPLICATED. WALDHEIM SAID HE HOPES THAT ALL PARTIES
WILL DO THEIR BEST TO MOVE TOWARD A SOLUTION, BUT IT IS NOT
USEFUL TO COMMENT ON ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM; IT IS MORE
HELPFUL TO AVOID FUTURE PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND USE QUIET DIPLO-
MACY.

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3. IN Q & A PERIOD, WALDHEIM SAID THAT A SETTLEMENT
IS STILL FAR AWAY, BUT HE HOPED FURTHER EFFORTS THROUGH
QUIET DIPLOMACY WILL OVERCOME THE STALEMATE AND LEAD TO
A GLOBAL SETTLEMENT. HE SAID OTHER PARTIES WHO HAVE BEEN
ABSENT HAVE TO BE BROUGHT IN. ON QUERY AS TO HIS SUGGES-
TION TO CONVENE A MEETING IN NEW YORK, WALDHEIM SAID IT
IS UP TO THE PARTIES TO DECIDE WHETHER A PRE-GENEVA NEW

YORK CONFERENCE OF ALL THE PARTIES WOULD BE HELPFUL. HIS SUGGESTION STILL STANDS, IT IS NOT A FORMAL PROPOSAL. IT COULD BRING ALL THE PARTIES BACK INTO THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. FOR THE MOMENT THERE IS NOT MUCH OF A CHANGE FOR GENEVA TO RESUME, BUT IT IS CERTAINLY THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE OF THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338 CONTINUE TO REPRESENT THE BASIS FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS BUT OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN RECENT MONTHS MUST ALSO BE TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT. WALDHEIM STRESSED THE ROLE OF THE TWO CO-CHAIRMAN THE US AND THE USSR, IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. HE REFERRED TO THE JOINT STATEMENT OF THE CO-CHAIRMAN AND ADDED THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT ALL THE PARTIES CONCERNED WITH THE CONFLICT PARTICIPATE IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

LEONARD

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TAGS: PORG, XF, (WALDHEIM)
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